

Technical Branch
Inspection Group
Landscape Series

LANDSCAPE INSPECTOR

07/04 (AIS)

General Purpose

Under general supervision, conduct field inspections of construction projects to enforce compliance with municipal, state and national landscaping and allied irrigation codes and regulations, and adherence to City approved plans, specifications and standards.

Typical Duties

Examine new or existing landscape sites and irrigations systems prior to, during various phases and at completion of installation, repairs or modification to ensure trades work and materials conform to prescribed quality and safety standards. Involves: Schedule initial and follow-up inspections. Investigate or refer complaints to supervisor as instructed. Verify contractors are licensed and possess required permits, issuing them as authorized, if necessary. Review design plans and specifications and notify property owners and contractors of violations or unacceptable layouts, materials and equipment. Check irrigation system components including, but not limited to, water distribution lines, sprinkler heads, valves, pumps, nozzles and backflow devices for defects such as uneven water distribution, improper drainage, leaks, pitting, corrosion or cracking. Calculate factors such as water flow, level and pressure requirements and limits using established formulas and compare results to standards references. Inspect plants, trees and shrubs for size, quantity, location, suitability, general health and appearance. Interpret and explain code and design requirements and restrictions and suggest corrective measures and time limits. Prepare and issue citations and work stoppages and report uncorrected violations for use by administrative or judicial authorities. Obtain evidence of failure to comply such as by sketching location and features of deviations, collecting samples of unapproved materials for laboratory testing, searching inspection records and testifying in court.

Perform related incidental duties contributing to the realization of unit or team objectives as required. Includes: Maintain awareness of changes in landscaping and irrigation trades technology and codes. Substitute for supervisor or coworkers as qualified and within authorized limits by carrying out specified functions to maintain continuity of ordinary operations, if delegated. Provide designated support for projects or activities overseen by higher graded non-supervisory personnel as instructed. Explain and demonstrate work performed to assist supervisor in orienting and training less knowledgeable employees. Engage in assignments pertaining to functions of other positions for training purposes under close supervision. Log activities, and prepare, maintain and submit recurring or special activity status and results reports using personal computer. Keep tools, equipment and work area orderly, safe and clean.

Knowledge, Abilities and Skills

- Good knowledge of landscape design, construction, ecology, plant and soil science geology, materials, tools and techniques.
- Good knowledge of general building construction, irrigation and irrigation system installation and equipment defects and hazards.
- Some knowledge of horticultural, planting, seeding practices and methods, and soil types.
- Ability to read and interpret landscape plans and code requirements.
- Ability to recognize deviations from approved plans, identify defects and hazards in material and work performed, and inspect landscaping plant material for disease and suitability.
- Ability to apply mathematical concepts such as fundamentals of plane and solid geometry and trigonometry together with fractions, percentages, ratios, and proportions to practical situations.
- Ability to express oneself clearly and concisely, orally and in writing, to firmly, tactfully and objectively interpret and enforce landscaping code requirements, and prepare inspection reports or business correspondence and maintain related records.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with City employees, contractors, property owners, officials and the public, including irate people.
- Skill in safe operation and care of a motor vehicle, personal computer or network workstation, generic business productivity software, landscaping equipment and tools, and computerized field data collection devices.

Other job Characteristics

- Frequent bending, stooping, climbing and moving over uneven terrain.
- Frequent exposure to varying weather conditions.
- Occasional driving through city traffic.

Minimum Qualifications

Education and Experience: Equivalent to a high school diploma or General Education Development (GED), plus four (4) years of landscaping, irrigation systems installation or horticulture trades experience.

Licenses and Certificates:

- Valid registration as a Licensed Irrigator in Texas or equivalent transferable from another state by time of application, which must be converted within six (6) months following appointment.
- Valid Texas Class "C" Driver's License or equivalent from another state by the time of appointment.

Human Resources Director

Department Head